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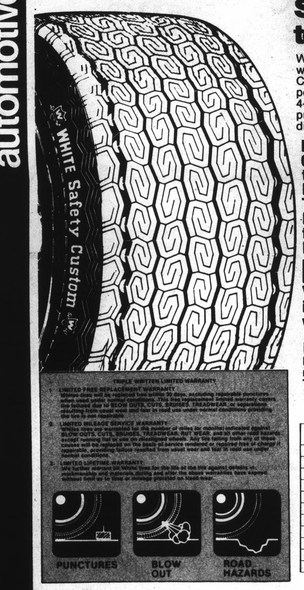

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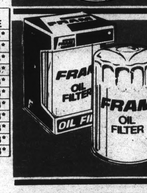

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A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

1 SECTION - 16 PAGES

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Father Darkleaf

BY
CALVIN ROBINSON

February has been with us a short week, but I waited until this morning (Monday) to tear off the January sheet from the wall calendar. Not that I disliked to give up on January, but just sorta hanging around to see what February was to be like. Thus far, not too bad. We are able to get about, the car starts every morning, the pantry is stocked with victuals, electricity is okeh, the phone is on the hook, and the worst thing to happen thus far was that two light bulbs burned out. Not as exciting as ice skating and sleigh riding. No test of competency like a snowball battle; no harrowing moments of skidding tires. Ah yes, but lest we become careless, remember that as of Monday, sixty-four highway deaths have marred our State record thus far into 1979, up two from same date last year.

• • •

Approaching Valentine's Day recalls bygone times when the sending of comic valentines was big business. Fat people, pompous people were often targets. Haven't seen a comic valentine for years. Just as well.

• • •

Notepad item . . . the guy in the TV commercial who keeps saying, "You can call me Ray, [illegible] call me Ray, his real name is Bill Saluga. Now we know.

• • •

A friend was telling me about finding two of his school textbooks and how he treasured them. I browsed around and found a high school Latin textbook and realized that I had forgotten all about ablative absolutes, reflexive pronouns, pluperfect tenses, etc. Did you save any school books?

• • •

Matthew Fontaine Maury was not at Appomattox April 9, 1865, but he was one of the great Confederate leaders and all-time top Virginians. He died at Lexington, Va., February 1, 1873. For his great achievements in science, especially in knowledge of the oceans, he won many honors. The Emperor of France made him Commander of the Legion of Honor, The Emperor of Russia, Knight of the Order of St. Ann; the King of Denmark, Knight of the Dannebrog; the King of Portugal, Knight of the Tower and Sword; the King of Belgium, Knight of the Order of St. Leopold; Cambridge University, England gave him an LL.D along with Alfred Lord Tennyson; He received decorations from the Emperor of Mexico and Prussia, Austria, Sweden, Holland, Sardinia and France struck medals in his honor. He was named to over forty scholarly societies. He suggested that just as there are special colleges to train doctors and lawyers, so should there be schools to teach agriculture and technical skills, and so Virginia Polytechnic Institute was established in 1872. Known as The Pathfinder of the Seas, this native of Spotsylvania County, Virginia ranks with the giants the Old Dominion produced.

• • •

Breakfast cereal is a major part of one's food intake. I came across a long article about the history of corn flakes, and listed some breakfast cereals including some you may not remember . . . oatmeal, Grape Nuts, Post Toasties, Elijah's Manna, Postum Cereal, Nutrita, Malta-Biscuit, Mapl-Flakes, Graham Bread, Rice Krispies, Zwieback, Shredded Wheat. Breakfast is an important meal.

• • •

Appomattox is taking 1979 in stride and here's hoping it will be your best year. Thanks for reading and seeya next week.

H. A. Paulette, Director of Transportation for the Appomattox County School System, and Paul Burge, driver of the special bus, are shown in photo from left to right.

Specially Designed Vehcile Added to Fleet of School Buses

Appomattox County Public Schools have added a specially designed vehicle to the fleet of buses. There are five orthopedically handicapped students in the county schools, who are unable to ride the regular buses. In the past the school has sent a car and driver to transport these children or their parents have provided transportation. Public Law 94-142 states that related services, which are to be provided to handicapped students include transportation. For this reason, a portion of the cost of the bus was paid through the use of federal funds.

The vehicle pictured above is equipped with 13 pupil seats and additional wheel chair clamps. Because of a lift gate which allows students to enter the bus while remaining seated in their wheelchairs and the clamps which fasten the chairs securely inside the bus, it is possible for handicapped students to travel to and from school without being lifted from their chairs.

Four of the students, who are provided transportation on the bus, are students at the Appomattox Middle School and one is a student at Appomattox County High School.

The purchase of the bus is another step which the local school division has taken to provide a free appropriate public education which will provide full educational opportunities for handicapped students.

Parents Invited To Discussion On Student Registration

Parents of students in the present 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11th grades in Appomattox County Schools are invited to participate in a discussion pertaining to course offerings for the 1978-79 school session as scheduled below:

Monday, February 12, 1979 - 9:05 - 9:55 a.m. - Auditorium, ACHS, 11; 10:00 - 10:50 a.m. - Auditorium, ACHS- 10; 10:55 - 11:45 a.m. - Auditorium, ACHS, 9; 1:15 - 2:10 p.m. - Cafeteria, AMS, 8; 2:10 - 3:05 p.m. - Cafeteria, AMS - 7.

Monday night, Feb. 12, 1979 - 8:00 p.m. - Library, ACHS, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

The purposes of these meetings are to familiarize parents and students with the course offerings and registration procedures for the school year 1979-80. Personnel from the schools and the school board staff will be present for the discussion and to answer questions. It is hoped that every parent will plan to attend one of the discussion meetings that has been scheduled.

Registration for courses by students for the next school year is to begin Monday, February 12, and end on Monday, February 19. Guidance counselors in the Appomattox Middle School and Appomattox County High School will then, through personal and group sessions, aid students in their course selections for their high school years. "It is very important that parents be familiar with the many course offerings that are available, and be in a position to help their children in the selection", explained Mr. Lloyd Walton, superintendent of schools. Final registration is to be completed by April 1, and further changes in courses will not be made unless it has been determined that there are unusual circumstances. The choices of subjects will be used to schedule classes and to determine staff needs for the 1979-80 school year.

Local Rescue Squad Responds to 58 Calls In January

Volunteer members of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad responded to a total of 58 calls during the month of January. In doing so they traveled a total of 2,525 miles and spent 255¼ manhours.

In response to four automobile accidents, eight persons were treated at the scene. Also, eight persons were monitored on the EKG machine en route to the hospital.

A breakdown of the calls is as follows: abdominal pains, 1; automobile accidents, 4; breathing difficulty, 1; broken bones, 2; burn, 1; call canceled, 2; chest pains, 10; diabetic, 2; DOA, 1; fall, 8; false call, 1; heart attack, 3; illness, 13; logging accident, 1; overdose, 1; stroke, 1; transport by doctors request, 6.

YOUTH ASSOCIATION TO ELECT OFFICERS

The Appomattox County Youth Association will meet at 7:30 p.m. on February 20th at Fidelity American Bank, Hillcrest Branch.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers and set an agenda for the year.

Anyone interested in coaching should attend this meeting.

Fred Weakley
President A.C.Y.A.

J. A. Smith Encourages County Leaders To Attend Forum

CHARLOTTESVILLE - Local county leaders are encouraged to attend the 1979 Forum on the Future of Virginia Agriculture, said J. A. Smith, extension agent in Appomattox County.

The event will be held in Charlottesville Feb. 20-21 at the Ramada Inn on U. S. 29 North. Sponsors are the Extension Division, Virginia Tech; the Virginia Agribusiness Council; and the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation.

Theme for this year's forum has been dictated by the changing national and state environment brought about by inflation, Proposition 13, and increasing demands on the public-revenue dollars, said Paxton Marshall, extension public policy specialist at Virginia Tech.

Marshall Coleman, attorney-general of Virginia, will be the banquet speaker on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 8:15 p.m. His topic will be, "The Commonwealth: Some Perspectives on Choosing Among Policy Options."

Keynote speaker will be Alan Reynolds, vice president and economist, First National Bank of Chicago. He will talk about national goals in conflict; priorities, policies, and budgets.

A number of other topics, including inflation, taxpayer issues, state revenue resources, and local response to the 'taxpayers' revolt" will be discussed by a variety of outstanding scholars, businessmen, and public officials.

Persons associated with agriculture, said J. A. Smith, will find the forum especially relevant.

Program brochures are available from your local Extension Service office, phone 352-8244. Alternatively, you may register by contacting the Adult Registrar, CEC, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. Mention the conference by name: Taxes, Revenues, Expenditures. Lodging reservations in Charlottesville should be made individually, said Marshall. A conference fee of $30 covers cost of educational materials, refreshments, and the banquet.

Commissioner of Revenue Announces New Schedule For Income Tax Season

Monte Mays, Commissioner of the Revenue for Appomattox County, has announced that for the convenience of the taxpayer his office will be open every day until 4:30 p.m. effective February 12, 1979.

For those taxpayers who can't get to the office between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., the office will be open each Wednesday night starting February 14th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

On Mondays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., no federal forms will be filled out as Monday is the day that the office audits all state income returns for computations and missing signatures. The audit insures the taxpayer that his or her return is filed correctly and signed properly. This audit prevents any delay in Richmond and speeds up refunds.

Tuesdays through Fridays, office hours will be 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Federal returns will be filled out and all state returns will be filed.

Wednesday the office will be open from 6 to 9 p.m. when assistance will be given for filing state and federal returns.

SPECIAL NOTE: Applications are now being taken

Continued on page 14

Dance-A-Thon To Benefit March of Dimes

Through the joint efforts of the Appomattox Chapter Future Business Leaders of America and the Future Homemakers of Amrica a Dance-A Thon will be held Febuary 24th in the ACHS cafeteria. Through the Dance-A Thon Appomattox can help the March-of-Dimes prevent birth defects. Also involved, in the fight against birth defects will be the "Young Hearts Club". These members will be rocking in various businesses around the community.

To feed the hungry dancers, local merchants have generously provided the food for lunch and supper. The Dance-A-Thon will begin promptly at 10 a.m. and end 12 p.m. Support from the community is a vital necessity in the success of the Dance-A-Thon. Pledges will be made by the hour and are collected for the time danced.

Spectators are welcome, although an admission charge of $1.00 will be collected. Come on out APPOMATTOX, get involved in the dance for those who can't.

Fund Raising Effort Begins For Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center

APPOMATTOX - Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center has been providing a unique experience for area youth since 1941, but now it is time to add a new dimension to that experience by expanding it to a year-round Center.

As a camp it has been providing summer experiences for youth in the 17 counties and two cities in the East Central Extension District. It is the only such facility within a 100-mile radius.

Plans have been launched for a $4½ million expansion. This will add a central meeting and dining building for 400 persons; kitchen; six lodges with kitchen and meeting rooms for 50-60 individuals; complete aquatic facilities including a year-round swimming pool, boat docks, lake swimming and fishing; tennis courts, stables and riding ring, athletic field to accomodate several sports; arts building; permanent resident manager housing; maintenance and service structures.

"The proposed Center could handle 580 persons at a time during the summer and 300 persons during the winter months," said Dr. C. G. O'Brien, local fund raising chairman of the drive to raise the $4½ million. Dr. O'Brien will be attending a special fund-raising planning meeting on February 8, to be held at the District Extension Office in Appomattox.

Construction is planned to start in the fall of 1979 or spring, 1980.

There are plans to make special use of solar power, too. The new facilities will include some heating and cooling with solar energy and educational programs about this form of energy will be a part of the Center's activities.

The present Holiday Lake facilities will continue to be used mainly as a summer camp. It consists of 15 cabins, two bunkhouses, recreation pavillion, outdoor theater under roof seating 300, kitchen and dining hall for 250, camp store and infirmary, horse stables and riding ring, sports fields, all-weather basketball and tennis courts, swimming area, vesper area and campfire circle.

"The expansion is truly needed," said Coach Jimmie Bryan, Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center District Fund Raising Chairman. "There are over 26,000 4-H'ers in the district. If the number continues to increase as it has been, the Center will have to be enlarged to provide this kind of experience for these youngsters."

At the same time, an expanded facility will provide a meeting place for many other community groups throughout the year. There are many needs for conferences and seminars for church, youth, social, civic and professional groups in the area for which the Holiday Lake Center would provide an ideal place.

"And the potential for school camping is tremendous," Bryan continued. "There are over 6,000 fifth graders in the district. If only a fraction of these are interested in winter camping, they would need the expanded Center for ovr 10 weeks."

The expanded Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center will permit the East Central 4-H program to continue offering educational experiences for young people of all economic, social and ethnic backgrounds. Four-H is the official youth program of the Department of Agriculture and is conducted by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service to provide practical, informal, educational programs for young men and women between the ages of 9 and 19.

Farmers National Bank Entertains Rescue Squad

The Board of Directors, on behalf of the Farmers National Bank of Appomattox, honored members of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad and their wives/husbands with a dinner at Falling River Country Club on Friday night, February 2nd.

Following a delicious dinner, catered by Maudes Restaurant, William A. Hunter, Vice President and Cashier at Farmers National Bank, spoke briefly to the group, commending the volunteers of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad on the service they are rendering the citizens of our county.

Following Mr. Hunter, Watkins M. Abbitt told a "few" after-dinner jokes, commended the volunteers of our local rescue squad and then introduced the Hon. Howard Anderson of Halifax, our representative to the State Senate.

Senator Anderson spoke of his deep concern regarding Rules & Regulations the State Health Department has imposed on volunteer rescue squads throughout the state. He promised that if and when a bill to reduce these rules and regulations or a bill to exempt rescue squads with only volunteer members reaches the Senate, he will do everything in his power to see that the volunteer rescue squads get a break. He congratulated the members of the local squad on the service they render and on the fact that they have never once accepted either state or federal funds to carry on the operation of this squad.

The Appomattox County Rescue Squad members were very appreciative of the recognition and support shown them by the Farmers National Bank.

4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING THURSDAY

The annual 4-H Public Speaking program will be held Thursday evening, February 8, at Appomattox Elementary School beginning at 7:00 P.M. The program will feature over fifty speeches that have been selected from nearly 200 4-H'ers who have participated in public speaking programs over the past several weeks.

Ribbon awards will be presented to each speaker and trophies will be awarded to the top girl and boy speaker in each of five categories. 4-H Public Speaking awards are sponsored by Farmers National Bank of Appomattox.

Make your plans to be with us and hear some of the finest young speakers in Appomattox.

Lions Club Will Meet Tonight

The Appomattox Lions Club will meet tonight, Thursday, at 6:45 p.m. at Maude's Restaurant.

In keeping with "Heart Month", February, Mrs. Gloria Cable, registered nurse employed in the Coronary Care Unit at Virginia Baptist Hospital, will present a film and talk on the prevention of heart disease.

All members will want to be present for this interesting and informative program.

$1,000 Reward Offered

A $1,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of person or persons who on the night of August 3, 1978 murdered Alfred Harwood Coleman, Route 4, Appomattox.

Any information regarding this crime should be given to the Appomattox County Sheriff's Department, telephone 352-8241. Any information given will be kept strictly confidential. This notice has been released by J. E. Richardson, Sheriff, Appomattox County.

Panel Approves Rescue Squad Exemption

A compromise measure exempting local rescue squads from new regulations set forth by the State Board of Health was approved Thursday, February 1, 1979, by a committee in the House of Delegates.

Sponsored by Delegate Mary Sue Terry, D-Patrick County, the legislation reported to the full House provided for local governing bodies to grant variances for one year to squads that don't meet standards established by the health board's Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

The compromise has been accepted by both the State Health Department and opponents of the rescue squad regulations so the bills stands a good chance of gaining approval from the full House of Delegates.

In essence, what the volunteer rescue squads are objecting to is that the State Board of Health is mandating the same Rules & Regulations imposed on paid ambulance personnel. The volunteers want to have as much training as possible and the best in equipment - but they do not want the government telling them that by law they have to! Volunteers should not be told what to do. The members of our local rescue squad have always done an outstanding job, the citizens of the county think so, at any rate.

Ronald Spiggle, Mayor of the Town of Appomattox, was one of many from Appomattox attending the meeting in Richmond on last Thursday. Following is a copy of a speech made at this meeting by Mayor Spiggle and it pretty well covers the feelings of the citizens of the Town of Appomattox, the Town of Pamplin and the County of Appomattox.

"We are appalled and alarmed to say the least, at the stringent regulations and requirements that will be mandated and forced upon our local Rescue Squad, if you amend a law you passed in 1968. A law, written to protect citizens, a law to upgrade ambulance service, paid ambulance service.

Now, you have an Amendment before you to include "Local Volunteer Rescue Squads" in Section 32, of the Code of Virginia.

Here in lies the area that we disagree with, and hardly oppose. You cannot compare paid and for-hire ambulance services, to that of Volunteer Rescue Squads.

No one in the local Rescue Squad's, is opposed to continuing education, and local squads are constantly striving to up-grade their services.

The men and women of Local Rescue Squads are volunteer—That is they give of their time and talents freely—they do not receive any compensation for the service they render to fellow human beings. These men and women have their own occupations and families to look after. If these rules and regulations were guidelines, not the Law of Virginia, we would not be so vehemently opposed to them. Guidelines would allow Rescue Squads to meet the regulations as time, and monies would permit.

Gentlemen, we are speaking of a service begun and continued by We, the people. I respectfully submit to your

Continued on page 14

Annual Meeting For Farmers Held

Tolley's Liquid Fertilizer and Allied Chemical Company hosted the Annual Meeting for farmers in Appomattox County and in adjoining counties on Thursday night, February 1, at the Appomattox County High School cafeteria. Shown in photo above, left to right, hosts were Macon Parker, Reid Carr, O. H. Tolley, Jr., Jerry McCoy, O. H. Tolley, Sr., and Billy Adams. Tolley's Liquid Fertilizer sells the latest in liquid fertilizer for farm crops.